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Minister Zbigniew Rau in the „Die Zeitung“

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„Putin wants to lure Germany into a trap”

Prof. Zbigniew Rau

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Russian Federation, has once again presented an original
in a recent article for *Die Zeit*. In his version, the Soviet Union
bird Reich's aggression, before – having fended off the
"the Saviour of Europe".

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German-dominated European Union to become part of a
the Russian-dominated Eurasian Union.

ly rooted in his own vision of the Second World War, in which
ler-Stalin Pact plays the key role. The Pact encouraged Hitler
eturn, Stalin was given a free hand to enslave the nations of

: few years, during a series of annexations and occupations,
methods that Stalin and his successors used in 1939-1989 to
e Baltic states.

fice shed by all nations of the USSR – in particular Ukrainians,
was able to preserve and expand the sphere of influence he
he Iron Curtain split Europe “from Stettin in the Baltic to
long practice in luring democratic leaders into an imperial

well. Overcoming the division of Germany entailed the fall of
of freedom by Eastern European nations. Freedom is the
s on which development model to follow and how to fulfil
er keeping people in concentration camps and gulags, it is
nd NATO membership. Building Europe whole, free and at
dent George H. Bush in 1989, was about rejecting a model
nd embracing the idea of freedom and the democratisation
he alternative to the model proposed by Putin.

ision is the German concept of *Wandel durch Handel*. Putin
nd, as befits a seasoned judo fighter, uses Germany's
country, and make it resemble Russia. Along with Nord
to import Russia's idea of the Concert of Powers and its
nt, based on an interdependence between the worlds of

politics, business and crime.

Therefore, Germany should reject Putin's offer and opt for the model of a free Europe where
/ covert deals between world powers but through an order
democratic principle of respecting the sovereign equality of
he free with the free, the equal with the equal”.

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Polish foreign minister once said in Berlin that he was more afraid of German power. Today, I am more afraid of Germany's lack of willingness of its cooperation with Putin's Russia.

Germany will create a great security deficit on NATO's eastern flank and leave it empty / void. Therefore, I call on Germany to take responsibility for making a real – and not pretended – contribution to offsetting the deficit. Germany should bear the immense cost of building NS2 in order not to use the opportunity of strengthening the deterrent potential of both NATO's and the EU. Poland, as the victim of Russian aggression, should receive a suitably high level of political support and increased defence potential. Germany should make up these security deficits.

German elite's declarations of their sense of responsibility for peace in Europe. Germany can show good faith by taking true responsibility for peace and security in policy here and now, but especially after Nord Stream 2

Republic of Poland

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